Message Text

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DEPARTMENT PASS USDOC

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: ETRD, JA SUBJECT: TRADE

SUBJECT: TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE: BOEING MARINE

SYSTEMS CASE

REF: (A) STATE 133472, (B) TOKYO 9457

SUMMARY: EMBOFF HAS DISCUSSED SUBJECT CASE DIRECTLY WITH MOT SHIP BUREAU OFFICIALS. DURING PLANNED TRIP TO U.S., MOT SHIP BUREAU INSPECTORS WISH HOLD DIS-CUSSIONS WITH USCG AND AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING OFFICIALS TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH U.S. SHIP CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS WITH VIEW TOWARD FACILITATING FUTURE JETFOIL IMPORTS. INSPECTORS WOULD ALSO CONDUCT INSPECTION OF SECOND SKK HYDROFOIL AND EQUIPMENT AS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED. MOT HAS REQUESTED USCG COMMANDANT ISSUE LETTER "INVITING" INSPECTORS TO U.S. FOR THIS DUAL-PURPOSE TRIP. U.S. SIDE, I.E., BOEING MARINE WOULD STILL NEED TO BEAR COST SINCE TRIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH HYDROFOIL CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE MUST TAKE PLACE DURING LATE AUGUST/EARLY SEPTEMBER. EMBASSY DRAFT OF PROPOSED TEXT BEING SENT SEPTEL FOR WASHINGTON CONSIDERATION SOONEST. END SUMMARY. UNCLASSIFIED

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- 1. ON JUNE 6, EMBOFF DISCUSSED BOEING MARINE CASE DIRECTLY WITH SHIP BUREAU INSPECTOR TANIGUTI BECAUSE WE HAD RECEIVED INDICATIONS THAT LETTER EMIN PLANNED FORWARD MOT (REFTEL B), WHICH EMPHASIZED TRADE ASPECTS OF CASE, WOULD NOT BE SATISFACTORY TO SHIP BUREAU.
- 2. DURING JUNE 6 MEETING, TANIGUTI STATED THAT SHIP

BUREAU'S PRIMARY FOCUS IS ON SAFETY OF VESSELS AND EXCELLENCE OF CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS. HOWEVER, SHIP BUREAU OFFICIALS ALSO WISHED TO FACILITATE THE TESTING AND IMPORT OF FUTURE BOEING JETFOILS AS WELL AS THIS SECOND SKK PURCHASE. THEREFORE, DURING UPCOMING U.S. TRIP, TWO MOT INSPECTORS WISH TO HOLD EXTENSIVE DIS-CUSSIONS WITH USCG AND AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING PERSONNEL IN WASHINGTON STATE IN ORDER TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH U.S. SHIP AND ENGINE CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS. IF THE INSPECTORS ARE SATISFIED WITH U.S. STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES, FUTURE ON-SITE INSPECTION AT BOEING MARINE, REGARDLESS OF THE STAGE OF JETFOIL CONSTRUCTION, COULD PROBABLY BE MET BY A MOT INSPECTOR VISITING THE FACILITY DURING HIS REGULAR ANNUAL OCTOBER/SWING THROUGH NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA. SINCE FINANCING FOR THIS TRIP IS ALWAYS INCLUDED WITHIN THE BUREAU BUDGET, MONEY WOULD NOT BE A PROBLEM.

3. TANIGUTI CONFIRMED THAT BOTH SKK AND MOT HAVE BEEN QUITE SATISFIED WITH THE FIRST JETFOIL'S PERFORMANCE. SINCE IT IS A NEW DESIGN, HOWEVER, MOT BELIEVES IT MUST INSPECT THE SECOND ONE DURING ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION AND THUS THE NEED FOR THE EXTRA TRIP DURING END AUGUST/BEGINNING SEPTEMBER TO THE U.S. AS DISCUSSED PREVIOUSLY, THE "U.S. SIDE" WOULD NEED TO UNDERWRITE THE COST OF TRAVEL AND LODGING. UNCLASSIFIED

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- 4. TANIGUTIASKED THAT THE LETTER ISSUED TO THE SHIP BUREAU REQUESTING THIS TRIP EMPHASIZE THE MOT'S DESIRE TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE USCG AND AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING AND THAT THE LETTER COME FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE USCG TO SHIP BUREAU DIRECTOR-GENERAL SHAJIKI. EMBASSY IS WORKING ON DRAFT OF LETTER WHICH WE WILL FIRST SHOW TO MOT AND THEN FORWARD TO WASHINGTON.
- 5. EMBOFF ALSO ASKED WHETHER SHIP INSPECTION COULD NOT BE HANDLED BY JAPANESE SHIP CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY PERSONNEL ALREADY IN THE U.S. AS IS NOW DONE WITH MARINE COMBUSTION ENGINES DESTINED FOR EXPORT TO JAPAN (TOKYO A-135). TANIGUTI REJOINED, HOWEVER, THAT THE SOCIETY'S U.S. BASED PERSONNEL ARE TOO SCARCE AND MENTIONED AGAIN THAT, SINCE THE JETFOIL IS A NEW DESIGN, THE MOT INSPECTORS MUST CARRY OUT THE INSPECTION.
- 6. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES THE SHIP BUREAU IS MAKING AN HONEST EFFORT TO FACILITATE THE SHIP TESTING AND INSPECTION PROCEDURE AND RECOMMENDS THAT THE REQUESTED LETTER BE SIGNED AND SENT BY THE USCG COMMANDANT OR

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